



BOROUGH  
OF  
TENTERDEN,  
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR  
1898,

BY  
JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.P.H.  
*MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.*



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# Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Tenterden in 1898.

CENSUS 1881.		CENSUS 1891.	
No. of Acres .....	8,490	No. of Acres .....	8,490
Inhabited Houses ...	718	Inhabited Houses ...	718
Population .....	3,620	Population . . . . .	3,429

**The Population** of the Borough of Tenterden was estimated by the method adopted by the Registrar General to be **3,297** at the middle of 1898, showing a decrease of 17 since the middle of 1897.

Having regard to the number of new houses which have been built in Tenterden during the last two or three years, it is very doubtful if the population is at the present time actually on the decrease; the above method assumes that the decrease which was maintained between the years 1881 to 1891 is still going on, and this is questionable.

The rates given below, will, however, not be materially affected, as the difference in the population, either decrease or increase, is but small from year to year.

Eighty-one births were registered, including 41 of males and 40 of females, and giving the extremely low **Birth-rate** of **24·5** per 1,000 of population, as compared with 31·9 in 1897 and 28·8 in 1896.

Sixty-one deaths were returned, which included 41 of males and 20 of females, and of which 15 occurred at the Tenterden Union Workhouse.

The **Death Rate** was **15·1** per 1,000 of population as against 12·9 in the previous year and 13·5 in 1896.

Of the total 61 deaths one only was caused by one of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz; Scarlet Fever, giving the very low **Zymotic Death-rate** of **0·3** per 1,000 of population.



The **Infant Mortality**, *i.e.* the number of deaths amongst infants under one year of age per each 1,000 registered births was **61** as compared with 75 and 83 in the two previous years.

During the year 1898 the birth-rate throughout England and Wales was 29·4; the general death-rate 17·6 and the Zymotic death rate 2·2 per 1,000 of population.

The rate of mortality amongst infants under one year of age to each 1,000 registered births was 161.

The Vital Statistics for the year are a matter of congratulation, and although the general death-rate is a little higher than that for the two years previous—but still 2·5 below that of the country generally—yet the abnormally low Zymotic and Infant death-rates speak volumes for the extremely healthy condition of the Borough. It is also of interest to note that of the 61 deaths registered, 39 persons had obtained the age of 65 years or upwards.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Under the provisions of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, the extremely small number of 3 cases was reported during the year 1898, all being cases of Scarlet Fever.

They occurred one in each of the months of February, March and December.

The first case was that of a boy aged 11 years, who was notified on February 25th and who succumbed to the disease on March 12th.

The second case, that of a domestic servant, aged 16 years, was reported on March 16th, and recovered.

The Borough was free from all infectious disease throughout the time intervening between March and December, and the third case of Scarlet Fever was notified on December 3rd.

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## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Measles, Whooping Cough and Diarrhœa, which are diseases not included in the scheduled diseases of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, but which are taken into account in calculating the Zymotic death-rate, caused no deaths in the Borough throughout the year.

**Influenza** was responsible for two deaths, one in March and the other in May, the patients being aged respectively 2 months and 4 years.

**Elementary Schools.** It was not found necessary to recommend the closure of any of the Schools during the year.

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## INSPECTIONS.

I made several inspections during the year in addition to those connected with the cases of Scarlet Fever which occurred.

The condition of the Bakehouses, Dairies, and Milkshops and Slaughterhouses is satisfactory. The few cases where any alterations were required have been readily attended to by verbal instructions from the Inspector.

It has not been found necessary to resort to any legal proceedings during the year with regard to the sanitary administration, nor was it found necessary to take any action in regard to the housing of the working classes, private enterprise having so far well sufficed for all needs.

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## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the Borough of Tenterden, which hitherto could not be regarded as satisfactory, has received the serious consideration of your Council, and the efforts made have been attended with satisfactory results.



The Cranbrook Water Company in April last promoted a Bill for extending their area to include the Borough of Tenterden.

The Corporation obtained the insertion of a clause by which the Company agreed to make the supply available in Tenterden within 18 months.

The Bill having passed, the Cranbrook Water Company at once commenced to lay water mains in Tenterden, which are now completed, and when the mains are laid between Tenterden and the reservoir at Hartley, (near Cranbrook) the supply will be available. At the present time the work of laying the pipes is progressing rapidly at the intervening places and there appears every prospect of the water being available well within the prescribed time.

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## DRAINAGE.

The position of Tenterden, despite the fact that the sewers are not all that can be desired, allows of such good falls for drainage purposes that even during the hot summer and autumn of 1898 there was very little to complain of as regards sewer emanations, and no disease has appeared suggestive of faults in this direction.

The removal of refuse is carried out by private individuals, and little difficulty is encountered, owing to the agricultural character of the immediate outskirts of the town.

The general sanitary condition of the Borough at the end of the year was satisfactory, and the health statistics remarkably good.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Feb. 20th, 1899.

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

During the year 1898, 34 nuisances have been dealt with and seven were unfinished at the close of the year.

Accumulations dealt with	...	...	1
Sinks drained to Sewer	...	...	5
New lengths of sewer	...	...	1
Houses drained to sewer	...	...	6
Sewer gas nuisances	...	...	3
Drains obstructed	...	...	1
„ repaired	...	...	2
Foul drains	...	...	1
New drains	...	...	1
W. C.'s connected	...	...	6
„ . obstructed	...	...	3
Pumps repaired	...	...	1
Unfinished	...	...	7

JOSEPH SKINNER,

Inspector.

TABLE I.

The number of Deaths from all causes and from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases with their Death-rates; the principal causes of death and the Infant Mortality in each Quarter of 1898, in the Borough of Tenterden.

QUARTERS.	Total Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000.	Deaths from seven principal Zymotics.	Zymetic Death-rate.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Deaths of Infants under one year, per 1,000 Births.
1st	21	20·6	1	1·2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	2	1	1	13	143
2nd	18	19·4	0	0·0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	1	...	1	1	...	10	62
3rd	12	12·1	0	0·0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	9	0
4th	10	8·4	0	0·0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	2	...	1	4	0
Totals	61	15·1	1	0·3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	8	3	...	7	2	2	36	61



TABLE II.

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the past Ten Years and in 1898.

Zymotic Diseases.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	Average of ten years.	1898.
Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	0.0	0
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	..	...	0.1	1
Diphtheria .....	..	...	...	...	5	...	...	1	1	...	0.7	0
Fevers .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.1	0
Measles .....	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	..	2	...	0.2	0
Whooping Cough ....	2	...	...	5	...	1	...	4	...	..	1.2	0
Diarrhoea... ..	..	1	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	0.6	0
Total Zymotics .....	2	1	...	7	6	1	1	7	4	...	2.9	1
Other Zymotics .....	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	0.4	2
Totals .....	2	1	...	7	6	3	1	8	4	1	3.3	3

A TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1898, in the Tenderden Urban Sanitary District  
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statis- tics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five years of age.									
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	Scarlatina.	Rheumatic Fever.	Pthi- s.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.	
Tenterden .....	46	5	4	3	2	5	27	Under 5 5 upwards.	1	1	1	3	4	2	2	4	9
Workhouse ... ..	15	...	...	...	...	3	12	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	10	15
Totals ... . . . .	61	5	4	3	2	8	39	Under 5 5 upwards.	1	1	1	3	7	2	2	4	9
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.																	
Deaths occurring within the District among persons not belonging thereto	11	...	...	...	...	2	9	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	7	11

Table of Population, Births, and of new cases of infectious sickness, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1898, in the Tenterden Urban Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.		
	Last Census.	Estimated to middle of 1898.			Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.
Tenterden .....	3429	3297	81	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	...
					3	...	...



